## Proclamation by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, universal respect for and observance of the journey toward civil rights and fundamental freedoms contributes to social progress and better standards of life in West Virginia and every state and nation; and

Whereas, West Virginians have demonstrated a long and dedicated commitment toward civil rights and associated freedoms within and beyond state and national borders; and

Whereas, sixty-one years ago, the West Virginia Legislature created the West Virginia Human Rights Act and the West Virginia Human Rights Commission to honor and continue the work of the Civil Rights Act; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Human Rights Act prohibits discrimination in employment and in places of public accommodation based on race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, blindness or disability, and also requires reasonable accommodation and equal access for pregnant women and persons with disabilities who use service animals; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Human Rights Commission enforces the West Virginia Human Rights Act and encourages mutual respect among all racial, religious and ethnic groups with the state; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Human Rights Commission works cooperatively with government agencies, community and civic organizations and representatives of minority groups to promote programs and campaigns devoted to the achievement of tolerance, understanding and equal protection of the law; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Human Rights Commission celebrates and honors those who broke barriers and fought for civil rights in all areas of life, but also raises awareness about ongoing challenges; and

Whereas,
2022 marks the 59th anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, the largest gathering for civil rights of its time and a powerful proponent toward the passage of the Civil Rights Act; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Human Rights Commission fully supports the intent and purpose of the Civil Rights Act and strives to honor and uphold the West Virginians who exemplify and implement its words, spirit and intent.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim August 29, 2022 as:

## Civil Rights Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all West Virginians to work toward safeguarding the continued work toward civil and universal human rights.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Second day of August, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Two, and in the One Hundred Sixtieth Year of the State.

By the Governor:

Mac Warner Secretary of State